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## 18TH ECLA PLENARY SESSION CONCLUDES IN LA PAZ

### Economic Resource Figures

PY251855 Paris AFP in Spanish 0241 GMT 25 Apr 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 24 Apr (AFP)--It was officially reported here today that Latin America exploits only 29 percent of its agrarian potential and that its gas and petroleum reserves are 4 times larger than those of Europe and twice as large as those of the United States and Canada.

The potentially arable land of the region has a surface of 575 million hectares, of which only 170 million are now being cultivated.

The reserves for Latin American mineral production will last for 225 years in the case of iron, 197 years for bauxite and 100 years for copper. On the other hand, the present zinc reserves will last only 15 years, and the lead reserves for (?27) years, according to official figures released by the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA].

According to 1977 figures, the production of minerals reached 87,834,000 tons of iron, 22,082,000 tons of bauxite, 1,494,000 tons of copper, 936,000 tons of zinc, 440,000 tons of lead and 40,000 tons of tin.

According to ECLA figures, the regional participation in world production of various minerals reaches the following rates: Copper, 33 percent; bauxite, 26 percent; iron, 20 percent; tin, 16 percent; zinc, 9 percent; and lead, 7 percent.

### Andean Pact Assessment

PY251849 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 21 Apr 79 pp 1, 15 PY

[Text] The Andean Pact, despite the difficulties it has had to face during its 10-year existence, is still a "good solution" for its members to reach a higher degree of development, and especially of industrialization. An example of this is the dynamism achieved in trade within the region (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia). Our country, however, has not been able to exploit the advantages that this integration presents, and the benefits it has obtained from it could have been significantly greater. These remarks were made by Gen Luis Barandarian Pagador (ret), Peruvian, member of the Cartagena Agreement Board.

This misuse of the advantages of the expanded market, especially in the field of manufactured goods, sets an even greater expansion of the gap which separates Bolivia from its subregional partners. Nevertheless, Ecuador has tried to take maximum advantage of its relatively underdeveloped condition and the consequent advantages it has in the area. According to General Barandarian, for his [apparent line drops in newspaper] manufactured goods; and Bolivia will receive the remaining 6 percent.

General Barandarian, who was present until Thursday at the ECLA discussions in La Paz, made a favorable assessment of the Andean Group, "despite the difficulties and limitations" that the process has had to face.

During a talk with reporters, he said: "We are 5 years behind schedule." Part of the delay was caused by Venezuela in the beginning of the decade when it joined the group and forced a reprogramming of the metal-mechanical industry.

Then came the withdrawal of Chile and the consequent breakdown of the integrationist structure. This was an additional adverse factor for Bolivia, because it lost one of its nearest and most important markets, the general said.

Notwithstanding the problems that have delayed the progress of the pact, trade among its members has increased considerably in 10 years, from $69 million to almost $900 million, according to General Barandarian.

He indicated that the flow of foreign capital to the area has also increased significantly, despite the pessimistic attitude of some sectors that considered Decision No 24 regarding the treatment of foreign capital as an obstacle for investment. "The flow of capital has been greater than when there was no common legislation," he said, because there has been a cumulative increase of 38 percent annually.

He indicated that the summit meeting of the Andean presidents to be held next month in Cartagena, Colombia, on the 10th anniversary of the Andean Pact, will turn out to be a very important event for the integration of the group. At that meeting the presidents will issue a "mandate" [mandato"] designed to make the process more dynamic.

The meeting probably will approve the creation of an Andean court to settle problems that may occur among members for reasons related to integration.

Final Document

PY262216 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1917 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 26 Apr (LATIN)--Latin America is facing the serious dilemma of incorporating its large poverty-stricken majorities into economic development or yielding to the threat of social disruptions that would endanger its political structure.

This categorical statement is part of the La Paz evaluation document issued here today at the end of the 18th sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA]. For 9 days the conclave gathered together representatives from the regional organization's 32 member nations and international observers from three continents and many financial and commercial organizations.

The La Paz evaluation today outlines a broad analysis of regional strategy to be implemented throughout the 1980's and made a balance--with an obviously critical view--of the achievements and mistakes that characterized Latin American economic and social development at the end of the present decade.

The UN regional organization today admitted Spain as a full member in consideration of the cultural, historical and economic bonds between that nation and Latin America [words indistinct].

The final ECLA document, whose bases were discussed at the technical commission level and by international plenary meetings, is the most important pronouncement of the organization, which was created in 1948, according to the general feeling among the delegations. In the document, the commission warns about the need for profound changes in the structure of Latin American development in order to correct the neglect of the great majorities, still subjected to critical poverty, which tends to worsen on the continent. It warns that only this attitude--decided and urgent--can avoid problems that could seriously affect the region's political structures.

The document stated that the production process, which registered obvious growth during the decade, continues to be incapable of solving problems arising from massive poverty, growing unemployment, insufficient basic social services, and even participation in economic life by large social sectors.

With regard to economic aspects, it states that Latin America should concentrate its greatest efforts toward the establishment of a new international economic order based on greater equity and justice in relations with the developed world. It explains that Latin American efforts to reach an acceptable degree of industrialization depend largely on the evolution and opportunities for access to the markets of the world's developed areas.

The document includes an initiative from various countries of the region--including Peru, Bolivia and Mexico--to establish a financial mechanism to provide the resources necessary for the exploration and development of the region's natural resources based on the principle of respect for permanent sovereignty over the countries' natural resources and economic activities. It encourages subregional cooperation as one of the fundamental pillars of the plan of action to establish the new international economic order.

The document emphasizes that Latin American countries should coordinate their economic policies and lend all their cooperation for maximum exploitation of technology, technical capacity and natural resources of the region in order to accelerate present programs for subregional integration.

The document includes observations and reservations posed during the course of the debates by various industrialized nations--including the United States, Canada, France and Great Britain--concerning the region's condemnation of the mechanisms that characterize the developed world.

Contained in 113 pages, the document will strengthen the outlines of Latin America's position--already outlined in principle during a recent meeting of the Latin American Economic System--for the meeting of the UN Conference on Trade and Development to be held in Manila, the Philippines, during May.

Closing Ceremony

FY270152 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 26 Apr 79 FY

[Text] During a 45-minute ceremony that began at 1800 today in the Libertad Room of the Sheraton Hotel, Planning and Coordination Minister Gary Prado closed the 18th session of the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA], which began in La Paz over a week ago.

Colonel Prado encouraged Latin American governments to work toward an economic model that would allow the region's countries to seek better roads toward development. He said that the efforts and work completed during this ECLA meeting have been positive for Bolivia and the region's other nations. He said: We have become aware of the need to obtain better development within a framework of justice and equality in the distribution of wealth.

The executive secretary of ECLA, Enrique Iglesias, asserted that Latin American unity with respect to common development goals has been achieved and asked for a renewal of faith to continue the struggle against protectionism among industrialized nations. He confirmed that three great mandates have been achieved during this period of ECLA sessions--the La Paz evaluation, which studies development goals for the next decade; the great challenge, which studies strategies for development efforts; and finally, the bases for the establishment of cooperation at the international level.

The coordination and planning minister of Peru, Jorge Chavez, spoke on behalf of the meeting's delegates. During his speech, he said that the La Paz evaluation had [words indistinct] and that he agreed with the ideals of all the delegates to overcome the economic crises of underdeveloped nations. He emphasized the significance of the proposals made by Carribbean, Latin and Central American nations.

Finally, Bolivia's planning and coordination minister closed the session in his capacity as president of the 18th ECLA sessions. Some of the meeting's delegates began to return to their countries this afternoon. Enrique Iglesias, executive secretary of ECLA, will leave La Paz tonight.

GEPLACEA MEETING OPENS IN BUENOS AIRES

PY241530 Paris AFP in Spanish 1840 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (AFP)--The 10th plenum of the Economic Group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries (GEPLACEA) opened today in Buenos Aires with the attendance of representatives of 22 Latin American countries.

The meeting, which will last until Friday, was called for the purpose of establishing the necessary coordination so that Latin American and Caribbean exporting countries may defend their economic interests in the field and to exchange technological information.

Alejandro Estrada, Argentine secretary of trade and international economic negotiations, opened the meeting. He announced the protectionist attitude being upheld regarding sugar trade.

He later stated that it is essential to find a rational long-term solution to this problem because "maintaining prices below production costs is not a long-term solution."

UPEB MEETING POSTPONED; NO AGREEMENT ON NEW DIRECTOR

PA261244 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Text] In Guatemala City today, the Union of Banana Exporting Countries [UPEB] postponed for the second time the meeting that was to elect the organization's new executive director.

The Guatemalan economy ministry officially announced today that the meeting would be postponed, claiming that the decision was taken because Colombia could not attend. However, it was learned that the postponement was made because there is no agreement as yet among the UPEB member countries regarding the election of the new executive director, who will replace former Colombian Minister Hernan Vallejo Mejia, who resigned from this post.

The UPEB minister's meeting should have been inaugurated today at El Dorado Americana Hotel in Guatemala City.

MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON STRIKE, DETAINED LEADERS

PY262109 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1945 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM)--The Interior Ministry issued a communique today concerning the attitude adopted by a small group of people who have instigated the workers "to observe an illegal strike" tomorrow. Following is the text of the Interior Ministry communique:

"A small group of persons have instigated the workers to hold an illegal strike on Friday, 27 April, and have thus prompted government action in keeping with its responsibility to promote the common good and to enforce the law.

"This minority group chose an illegal way to disrupt the process of national reorganization, which has been seeking, with understandable difficulties, to pull the country out of the situation it has been experiencing. They have attempted to have the workers adopt illegal, useless attitudes. Unfortunately, these actions are not happening in the country for the first time, and the people are certainly aware of this.

"The national executive branch, with prudence, objectivity and a decisiveness that does not and will not indulge in hestitation, has proceeded to enforce the law. In this regard, it first ordered the arrest of the presumed instigators of the announced coercive measure. Their statements indicate that Alberto Ignacio Campos, Fernando Donaires, Benjamin Silvano Menicani, Jorge Luis Lujan, Rodolfo Mario Soverano, Carlos Raul Cabrera, Delmidio Elias Coret, Natividad Santiago Serpa and Ramon Jose Valle do not support this action. Therefore, the executive branch has released them. The others are still under arrest. The judicial branch has played its proper role.

"The armed forces government will guarantee both freedom of work and public order with all of means and with the power that stems from reason and the law. The government is aware of reality and has been tenaciously seeking basic solutions with seriousness and sensibility and without demagogic hesitation.

"This is its decision, and it trusts that through commonsense the people will not accept this illegal [strike] action."

Release of 9 Leaders

PY270355 Paris AFP in Spanish 0340 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (AFP)--According to reports, 9 of the 21 union leaders arrested Monday for ratifying a protest strike tomorrow, Friday, were freed just before midnight local time. Hours before, the provisional Committee of 25 had denied an official communique announcing the release of nine of its members "for not having endorsed their colleagues' measure of force."

However, a police official reported that the delay in freeing the union leaders was due to routine matters, since they were transferred from the Caseros jail to police facilities before being released.

Union sources confirmed this report later by pointing out that several of the union leaders had returned to their homes after stopping off at their respective union headquarters. Thus only 12 union leaders are imprisoned at the disposal of the executive branch, while 4 others are being sought.

## Cordoba Arrests

PY262203 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2139 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Cordoba, 26 April (NA)--Sources at the local federal police office have confirmed that five union leaders were arrested here early this afternoon in connection with the summons last weekend to hold a national day of protest tomorrow. The sources added that "the procedure will continue until all signatories of the communique published in this capital in support of the national day of protest tomorrow, called by the Committee of 25 in the federal capital are arrested."

The arrested union leaders are Manir Fatala, secretary general of the Union Association of Trade Employees; Manuel Rodriguez, secretary of the Argentine Association of Telegraph and Radiotelegraph Operators; Juan Reyes, head of the Restaurant Workers' Union; Juan de Blazis, secretary of the State Oil Workers Union, and Julio Cesar Romero, from the Metallurgical Workers' Union. Judge Zamboni Ledesma, Federal Court No 1, is in charge of the proceedings.

## Cordoba Government Appeal

PY270115 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0040 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Cordoba, 26 Apr (NA)--The press and dissemination secretariat of the provincial government issued a communique early tonight in which the provincial government "calls on the Cordoba labor sector, urging the workers to make their responsibility prevail over the instigation of divisive individuals."

## CNT Rejection of Strike

PY270040 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2244 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (NA)--The National Labor Commission (CNT) decided today to reaffirm its rejection of the strike called for tomorrow by the Committee of 25 and to continue negotiations aimed at obtaining the release of the committee's leaders. During a meeting at the headquarters of the ATE [State Workers Association], the CNT decided to adjourn the meeting until Monday to draw up a paper to be released on 1 May. The CNT had termed the strike called by the Committee of 25 "unilateral and hasty."

## International Support

PY270131 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2240 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (NA)--Venezuelan union leaders Ernesto Molano and Ramon Dario Godoy, representatives of the World Labor Confederation (CMT) and the Latin American Workers Central (CLAT), met today with political figures and officials of the Catholic Church to negotiate the freedom of the leaders of the Committee of 25 who are still under arrest for calling a "day of national protest" for tomorrow.

A CLAT communique indicated that the visiting union leaders also held talks with the Provisional Committee of 25 and other Argentine union leaders.

The CLAT also reported that the Brazilian National Labor Front [Frente Nacional del Trabajo de Brasil] has sent a telegram to the Argentine Government asking for release of the prisoners and the fulfillment of ILO conventions 87 and 98. Continental federations of food workers, metalworkers and public employees have also sent messages of solidarity.

Meanwhile, the CLAT executive board met in Caracas and agreed to acknowledge the Committee of 25 as the only representative of the Argentine labor movement at the international level, according to a letter sent to the committee.

Frondizi Call

PY261507 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2354 GMT 25 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr (NA)--Arturo Frondizi, top leader of the Integration and Development Movement (MID), today joined the expressions of support seeking release of the detained union leaders by releasing a communique in which he states that the current Argentine situation "is a logical consequence" of the economic policy, and that "it can become a historic case of a new process of accelerated deterioration."

Frondizi feels that "this is the time for the armed forces to reassess everything in depth" and that "ordering the release of the leaders is necessary to achieve a climate in which the reassessment may be possible."

ILO Leaders' Arrival

PY261541 Paris AFP in Spanish 1314 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (AFP)--Today, the day before the national strike ordered by a sector of the Argentine labor movement, leaders of the International Labor Organization [ILO] arrived in Buenos Aires to ask the military government for the release of 21 union leaders. Colombian Ernesto Molano, representing the World Labor Confederation, arrived from Brussels, while the Latin American Workers Central sent Ramon Dario Godoy to state its "complete solidarity with the Argentine workers." Fernando Melgosa, Latin American coordinator for the International Metallurgical Workers Confederation, and Sol Chaiken, leader of the U.S. AFL-CIO, arrived for the same purpose.

Peronists' Petition

PY261315 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2112 GMT 25 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr (NA)--A group of Peronist leaders today presented a petition to the military junta requesting the release of the arrested union leaders. In requesting the release of the arrested union leaders, they posed "the need for a blue and white 1 May in Argentina."

Meanwhile, Peronist leaders Bernardo Montenegro and Juan Labake, along with union leader Salvador Maximino, vice secretary of the Sanitary Workers Union--whose leader, Santiago Serpa, is one of those under arrest--went to the Apostolic Nunciature and met with the first secretary, Msgr Claudio Maria Celli. The Peronist leaders asked Monsignor Celli for the formal intervention of the apostolic nuncio, Monsignor Pio Laghi, as representative of the Vatican to obtain the release of the arrested union leaders.

WORKER ATTENDANCE NORMAL IN BUENOS AIRES, CORDOBA

PY271338 Buenos Aires Radio Splendid in Spanish 1310 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Labor Minister Gen Camilo Reston has been in his office since early this morning and is studying various matters pertaining to the labor sector, along with his close aides. In addition we can add that all activities are being carried out with absolute normality.

Everything is also normal in the capital of Cordoba Province. The city is just as it appears on any normal day. Urban passenger transport is operating on schedule. The taxi service is also operating normally. Long-distance bus lines are following their schedules. Railway authorities reported at 0900 the rail activities are normal.

The public relations office of Renault Argentina reports that worker attendance is the same as on any normal working day and work is completely normal at the plant. The other automotive plants also report that worker attendance is normal.

The downtown area of Cordoba, despite the fact that the shops open between 0900 and 1000 because of the straight work shift, presents a normal appearance. Numerous people are turning up for work and the shops are opening slowly.

Regarding the official sector, the governor has been in his office since early this morning. As of 0900 he was presiding over a meeting of the provincial cabinet.

Roca Railroad Normal

PY271355 Buenos Aires Radio Splendid in Spanish 1343 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] According to a report released at 0930 by SAPORITI, the Roca Railroad, with its terminus in Constitution Station, which had been paralyzed since early this morning, renewed its services with emergency schedules. Rail authorities report that they expect a slow normalization of work throughout today. Attendance at all banks is absolutely normal in the capital and throughout the country.

Police Vigilance

PY270503 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0452 GMT 27 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Apr (NA)--The city's five subway lines were conducting their early morning services normally today. The last trains arrived on schedule at Constitution Station, and discreet police vigilance could be noted.

LABOR CONGRESS DEMANDS RESTORATION OF UNION FREEDOM

PY261842 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1605 GMT 25 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Mendoza, 25 Apr (NA)--A group of lawyers specializing in labor law, members of various political groups, released a declaration here at the end of a national congress on labor legislation and demanded that officials "immediately reestablish" the exercise of the rights of workers, including "protection of salaries and the free exercise of union activity."

The document was signed by lawyers Alberto Gonzalez Arzac, Carlos Maldonado, Carlos Alberto Mirson, Guillermo Lopez, Horacio Ferro, Jose Blas Made, Juan Carlos Morando, Carlos Corach and Oscar Valdovinos.

The declaration states that "the science of labor law has been developing throughout history and through capable institutions aimed at better relations between workers and businessmen and at having as an objective the general welfare and social peace."

It added that "the protective nature of its rules aims at the defense of human conditions and the standard of living of the workers."

PRESIDENTIAL PLANE CRASHES; SEVEN KILLED

PY261529 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1455 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 26 Apr (LATIN)--Authorized sources reported that seven air force officers died today when their military aircraft at the service of the president caught fire. Air force spokesmen told LATIN that the presidential plane suffered mechanical difficulties and caught fire as it was taking off from the military airfield near El Alto Airport here.

According to first reports, the casualties included Capt Luis Arduz, aide-de-camp to the president, Gen David Padilla Arancibia. The plane was going to Santa Cruz, capital of that department, 900 km southeast of here.

BARRIENTIST PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WITHDRAWS

PY261850 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 26 Apr (TELAM-EFE)--It was learned today in this capital that Gen Rogelio Miranda withdrew his candidacy for the Bolivian presidency at the head of the Barrientist Revolutionary Alliance after it became known that his party is negotiating with the coalition headed by Gen Hugo Banzer.

MINING SECTOR PLANS, INVESTMENTS FOR 1979 RELEASED

PY262208 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Apr 79 p 1 PY

[Excerpts] The country's income from the export of minerals in 1979 has been calculated at approximately 600 million Bolivian pesos, while investment in the mining sector will amount to 722,125,000. These figures were released yesterday at a press conference given by Planning and Coordination Ministry officials who indicated that the 1979 plan seeks to reduce our country's ever-increasing dependency on tin exports through adequate technical and economic reinforcement of other production sectors.

Planning Under Secretary Jorge Urquidi and industry and mining advisers Manuel Hernaiz and Teresa Blacutt referred extensively to the investment programed for 1979 in the various sectors and the projections of the country's economy. They said the Bolivian economy will continue to depend fundamentally on the mining sector for a long time. In this sense the 1979 production goals have been established, trying in every case to improve those set in 1978 through improvement of marketing and exploitation systems.

According to the statistics released, tin production will amount to 32,600 fine metric tons, lead 19,200, bismuth 15, silver 226, copper 3,000, wolfram 3,400, zinc 63,700, antimony 12,800 and cadmium 213 tons. In accordance with normal quotations on the international market, the state will receive approximately 600 million pesos from the export of these minerals. On the other hand, the investment in studies, exploration, research, exploratory drillings and others will amount to 722,225,000 pesos. These tasks have been given to various organizations that deal in prospecting and exploiting minerals.

The Geological Service of Bolivia will invest 92,988,000 pesos, the Mining-Metallurgical Institute 11,175,000, the Bolivian Nuclear Energy Commission 10,499,800, the National Fund for Mining Exploration 31,211,000, the Mining Industry 32,197,300, and the development corporations of several departments 28,186,800 pesos.

FIRED ABC METALWORKERS MOUNT PROTEST ACTION

PY261838 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Apr 79 PY

[Jose Roberto Marques report from the ABC region]

[Text] The Radio Bandeirantes news team is now at Sao Bernardo do Campo, near the Vilares equipment plant, where Luis Ignacio da Silva--"Lula"--and other former metalworkers union leaders gathered this morning with hundreds of workers dismissed from the Vilares plant to ask the other workers of the company not to enter as a protest against the dismissals.

But then Lula decided not to take such an action this morning because businessman Carlos Vilares had contacted him about setting a time to meet with him today to discuss the problem. The metalworkers who had been dismissed will gather at the church of Sao Bernardo do Campo tonight to learn about the results of the meeting. This is Jose Roberto Marques, reporting from the ABC.

Union Leaders' Status

PY260236 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Apr 79 p 8 PY

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo (O GLOBO)--Labor Minister Murilo Macedo stated yesterday that the lifting of the intervention in the steelworkers' unions of the Sao Paulo ABC region will not necessarily result in the reinstatement of the former leaders in their posts. He made it clear that he made no statement that could lead anyone to the conclusion that the union leaders will be reinstated. Macedo said they were disqualified for the posts.

Macedo again stated that the intervention in the ABC unions will be lifted as soon as "union life returns to normal." As for the reinstatement of union leaders Luis Ignacio da Silva, Benedito Marcilio and Joao Lins to the posts they were holding before the intervention, the labor minister--although avoiding a direct answer--indicated that this is not likely to happen.

The labor minister also said he does not believe the steelworkers will call new strikes in the ABC region. He noted that, although not being directly involved in the worker-employer talks, the government has been following the problem and will enforce the law if more strikes occur.

Minister on Effect of Strikes

PY260202 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] The strikes will not have damaging effects on "the process of political relaxation," Social Communications Minister Said Farhat stated, after asserting that "the government is absolutely calm." He strongly denied the possibility of government intervention in the states in view of the strikes by state government employees.

Farhat said: "The central government regards this problem as one that should be resolved by the interested parties themselves, the state government." He noted that Planalto Palace views these movements as being of a disciplinary nature rather than of a labor nature.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES NEW INSTITUTIONALITY

PY262230 Santiago Chile QUE PASA in Spanish 18 Apr 79 p 6-9 PY

[Undated exclusive interview with Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez]

[Excerpts] [Question] There has been criticism about the lack of information on those constitutional matters which the State Council is studying, and also on the fact that there are no opinion channels for these matters.

[Answer] I believe that the constitutional report which is being drafted by the State Council should be reviewed as a whole and not separately. When the State Council issues this constitutional report, public opinion will be completely informed on all proceedings so it may be able to form its own opinion on the matter and even issue alternatives on specific cases. Moreover, many issues can be discussed publicly because we already have the necessary elements to do it. As for the possibility of offering opinions and ideas, the possibility is still open and I, myself, have given much time to listening to proposals or to studying reports which are supplied to me directly and on which I later brief the president.

[Question] Sir, there are those who maintain that the plebiscite will include questions regarding the permanence of present authorities. Is this true?

[Answer] A formula, which has not yet been decided upon, about the continuation of executive authorities during the transition period is being considered. But it is obvious that this plebiscite will not include a presidential election with the participation of candidates, something which would mean a political campaign and which is not fitting within a transitional regime.

[Question] The president noted in his speech at the National University that the new institutionality has to modernize democracy regarding the separation of the executive and the legislative branch. Does this mean, as can be deduced from this text, that the government will decide on legislative matters?

[Answer] The government must have decisive intervention in the law through initiative on certain matters which are of its exclusive competence, but this is to be followed by congressional analysis and discussion which would perfect these initiatives. There are matters in which the congress may take the initiative. The constitutional draft has clearly defined the areas of action of the government and of congress.

[Question] In this theory what would be the counterbalance for government power?

[Answer] Also included in the constitutional draft would be the Senate, the Chamber of Deputies, the Constitutional Court, the Comptroller's Office and the Superior Security Council, among others.

[Question] What are the main characteristics of the transition period which will begin with the enforcement of the new constitution?

[Answer] A new stage in the orientation of our national life started almost 6 years ago. With the lifting of those barriers which produced a suffocating statism on one hand, and a tight monopoly of the political parties on the other, there is a new opening for creative potential of young generations which have new civic habits based on personal effort and initiative. The present government made this promising start possible during the recovery period. The transition period will make it possible to unite in a harmonious way the present system with that which in the future will guide the life of Chile on a permanent basis within the new democratic institutionality.

This is the objective of the action which started in September 1973. It would be premature to precipitate the country into political elections now since the wounds which Marxism inflicted have not been completely healed. An election would only weaken us before the antidemocratic peril. Time is needed to achieve the social, political and economic renovation which is indispensable for Chile to project itself toward a future with stability and justice based on a sustained development bringing well-being for all and a truly free society. Transition enables a gradual process by avoiding unfruitful detentions or hasty steps, which only end up in disorder and are harmful to society.

[Question] What do you think about the declaration signed by about 300 persons in which they "demand the return of democracy"?

[Answer] It does not surprise us that people who were active in the political leadership which led to the crisis prior to September 1973 have reappeared with this declaration. No one can seriously believe that a young and vigorous regime such as the one Chile needs for its present development and its future growth will emerge from this old leadership.

[Question] If you were appointed again to a political post, would you accept?

[Answer] No, I would not. I will not be in politics in the future either, because the day I leave this post I will try to be involved in the university and I will work in private practice.

[Question] And if in the future you were offered the presidential candidacy?

[Answer] No, I will never be one. The country cannot be concerned with candidates. We have a very good president who should govern for many, many years.

[Question] What will be the criteria the government will use to decide on the return of Chilean exiles within the context of the amnesty law whose objective, according to information that has been provided, is to help national unity?

[Answer] The invariable position of the government will be to continue denying authorization to return to the country to all those persons who are involved in the international campaign against Chile, in addition to all Marxist activists.

[Question] There are those who believe the government's answers to the problems of missing persons have not been sufficient.

[Answer] The answer has been clear and specific but unfortunately we cannot make everybody happy. Governments establish policies guided by the well-being of all and not to satisfy the demands of certain groups since there will always be sectors which will never be happy with the measures the government takes.

[Question] How are the relations between the church and the government?

[Answer] Very good and we hope they will improve even more. The government would like it to be that way.

[Question] Sir, every so often there are rumors about a cabinet change and your name is mentioned. To what do you attribute this?

[Answer] I do not know the sources or intentions of these rumors.

[Question] Do you believe there is a campaign against the interior minister?

[Answer] No I do not believe there is a campaign against me, but I do believe there are people who would be very happy to see me go.

LAINO CRITICIZES WACL CONGRESS, DOMESTIC CORRUPTION

PY270333 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 Apr 79 p 14 PY

[Excerpts] Domingo Laino has criticized the anticommunist congress that is taking place in Paraguay. He said it "lacks representation from the antitotalitarian point of view, and therefore its conclusions cannot be taken seriously."

"If we consider communism as an essentially totalitarian system," Laino went on, "what moral right could other representatives of totalitarianism have to condemn it? It is surprising to see the Nicaraguan representative come to our country to question the Carter administration's decision to cut off military aid to Somoza. Does this gentleman mean the U.S. Government must feel obligated to help that dictatorship? Doesn't he realize that by explaining Somoza's problems as being caused by lack of U.S. military, he is telling the world a very serious thing--that Somoza has remained in power thanks only to U.S. aid, which implies first that he is not popular and second that he depends entirely on another country to remain in power?"

With regard to domestic affairs, Laino commented that "among various national problems, dishonesty appears as the most serious. This affects not only institutions that handle international loans, such as CORPOSANA [Asuncion Water and Sanitation Corporation], but also other levels where dishonesty takes on dramatic connotations."

He added: "We also have the problem of the judicial branch. But the independent press is mistaken in sometimes viewing this as the main problem, because this is merely the effect of other causes that can be found in the power structure--that is to say, a nondemocratic, factional and repressive power. In other words, at times there is a tendency to believe side issues are the main problem. In our case, I believe the main issue is the power structure, and the other evils that crop up are only effects of that main cause."

PUBLISHERS, UNDER SECRETARY DEBATE PRESS FREEDOM

PY261952 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 26 Apr 79 p 11 PY

[Excerpts] A panel discussion on press freedom in Paraguay was held last night on the weekly TV program "La Semana" with the participation of directors of local papers--Dr Oscar Paciello, director of the newspaper LA TRIBUNA; Demetrio Rojas, director of ULTIMA HORA; Humberto Dominguez Dibb, director of the daily HOY; Gerardo Torcida, director of Radio Chaco Boreal; and the director of our newspaper. Also on the panel was Anibal Fernandez, information under secretary of the presidency.

The first point of discussion was the journalistic boom in the country. Then, when the topic of press freedom was specifically discussed, reference was made to the social responsibility of the press as an objective reporter of events and the bearer of culture. It was also mentioned that some public officials avoid journalists requests without valid justification and that some national issues are found in foreign publications that receive information from Paraguayan officials who would feel hesitant to provide it to the local press. In summary it was pointed out that freedom of press has developed greatly to a point that the panelists agreed that there is responsible press freedom in Paraguay to a degree that "everything that can be documented can be published."

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON VARIOUS ISSUES

PA261531 Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0632 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[By Yadira Calderon]

[Text] Caracas, 25 Apr (VENPRES)--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco said today that the advance of nuclear research in Brazil does not signify any risk for Venezuela since Brazil is a good neighbor and Venezuela has no border problems with Brazil.

Speaking on a television program in which he was interviewed on the problem of the delimitation of marine and submarine areas between Colombia and Venezuela, the foreign minister said this matter should be resolved between Colombians and Venezuelans and not by an international court.

The foreign minister said this is a problem concerning all Venezuelans and not just one political party and that it does not need to be resolved immediately. Moreover, Venezuela has shown through treaties with the Netherlands, the Dominican Republic and the United States that it can handle problems directly and bilaterally without having to resort to an international court, the foreign minister said.

He indicated that Venezuela has faced problems on the delimitation of marine and submarine areas in other zones which were satisfactorily resolved. In the specific case of Colombia, he added, "I believe when Colombia recognizes the maritime sovereignty of Los Monjes, the problem will be resolved."

Regarding the problem of illegal immigrants, the foreign minister said that this situation should not be considered in the same context as the delimitation of marine and submarine areas. Zambrano Velasco said that the problem of the illegal immigrants can be viewed from various aspects including the perspectives of public order and of international law. Anyway, the solution to the problem of illegal immigrants in Venezuela falls under national sovereignty.

Regarding the alleged massacre of Colombians on the Venezuelan border, the foreign minister said that one's attention is powerfully drawn by the fact that when this type of incident occurred, very prominent Colombian spokesmen were stressing that the negotiations on the delimitation of marine and submarine areas between Colombian and Venezuela had been practically exhausted, which could have led Colombia in terms of massacre or genocide committed by the Venezuelan authorities. [sentence as received]

On another subject, the foreign minister said that the current government will bear in mind the search for the institutionalization of freedom. We must strengthen relations with democratic regimes and with those countries which are making efforts to achieve democracy. This will always be done respecting the right of nonintervention.

Referring to the loans Venezuela has granted to other countries, Zambrano Velasco said that those loans should be granted in an orderly, programmed, systematic and planned manner, in accordance with the principles of international social justice.

PRESIDENT ROYO LEAVES ON 2-WEEK TOUR

PA261354 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpts] Here is an ACAN-EFE dispatch by Antonio Martinez:

Early this morning, Panamanian President Aristides Royo left on an official 2-week tour of Spain, Italy, the Vatican, France and the United States. In Europe, Royo will be reporting on the forthcoming entry into force of the Torrijos-Carter Canal treaties and the financial opportunities that these treaties will make available. Before leaving, the president said the countries he will be visiting are important clients of the Panama Canal. He added that he will seek investors willing to bring their capital to Panama. An official visit to Great Britain had originally been scheduled but it was canceled due to that country's current involvement in an election campaign.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES BANKING CONVENTION

PA252028 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Speech by President Aristides Royo at opening session of the second banking convention at El Panama Hotel in Panama City on the morning of 25 April--recorded]

[Excerpts] We really wanted to attend this opening ceremony, particularly after we found out what the agenda was. We thought a banking convention such as this one would surely focus either on special drawing discounts [as heard], international banking operations, checking problems--the various operations conducted at an international financial center or international banking center such as this one from within and from abroad to Panama. However, we have been very happy to see that the topics include Latin American integration, the problem of development in Latin America and credit risks in Latin America. I would have liked to have had much more time to come to each of the meetings of this second banking convention in Panama to enjoy the discussions to be held here on these extremely important topics.

I think there is no limit to what banks can do. As banking historically began in a very simple way around the 1400's, more as exchange houses with small monetary exchange operations to conduct, banking evolved through good and bad times until it became what it is today, a banking industry that exceeds the cold clockwork of figures and cares about the peoples' development. I think that the adventuresome capitalism which the Fuggers and (Walsemullers) practiced and which even led to the colonization of new territories in our mainland and insular America must serve as a motivation and incentive so that today, with less adventurism, banking will also undertake the task of achieving new goals. Those goals must primarily include our peoples' development.

BUDGETS FOR TREATY BODIES NEARING APPROVAL

PA260351 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Planning and Economic Policy Minister Gustavo Gonzalez announced that the outcome of several budget programs for the state entities that will be working in the Canal Zone on 1 October will be disclosed within 2 weeks. In exclusive statements for Radio Libertad, Minister Gonzalez added that several budget programs have been approved because when the new treaties go into effect, the Zone authorities will take even their smallest belongings with them.

STUDENTS PROTEST HIGH COST OF LIVING

PA251846 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Telephone Report by Enrique Zelaya Ibarra from Colon]

[Excerpts] At about 1115 this morning, Abel Bravo High School students hurled stones at the Chamber of Commerce building in Colon, breaking some glass windows. This morning's vandalistic acts by students were the negative consequence of an impromptu protest demonstration over the beef price hike announced by the National Government yesterday. The demonstration began at the provincial governor's office, where the students harangued and loudly protested the announced beef price hike. At the end of the demonstration near the governor's office, they went to the Chamber of Commerce building without any prior incidents.

The student group was carrying some loudspeakers with which they urged [as heard] and expressed what they called bad luck for the people in general. Some speakers blamed the Chamber of Commerce for the beef price hike. The damage caused by the students has not been estimated. From there the group of students went on to the Cinco de Noviembre Park, where they urged their fellow students to remain alert to the beef price hike, which they feel is vitally important for daily consumption.

More Student Demonstrations

PA251847 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpts] Student groups today blocked off several capital city streets, hurled stones at vehicles and destroyed some store display windows as they staged a demonstration to protest the high cost of living in general and the measures announced by the National Government to raise beef prices in particular. Reports reaching this station indicate that the students blocked off traffic and cars that tried to go through were stoned forcing traffic to be detoured.

Panama City Incident

PA251514 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1455 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 25 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Some 600 students of the Melchor Lasso de la Vega Artes y Oficios School this morning stoned the headquarters of the Panama Chamber of Commerce located near a central plaza of Panama City. The students, who did not indicate the exact motive for their protest, destroyed the building's glass windows.

A Chamber of Commerce source told ACAN-EFE that the students' attack took them by surprise and that they do not know the reason for the protest. Some observers indicated that it is possible that the student protest is due to the fact that the government yesterday made official new meat prices in the national market despite the existing disagreement of numerous Panamanian popular sectors.

Incident at Cattlemen's Offices

PA261937 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] In their 4th day of demonstrations today, students of various schools of this capital stoned the installations of the National Cattlemen's Association, protesting the meat price increases.

Small groups of students in different parts of the city blocked traffic and caused alarm among the community. The students, mostly of the Panama Junior High School, reached the Vallarino building, the site of the Cattlemen's Association headquarters, after a long walk along Central Avenue and started stoning the installations.

In the early morning, another group of students visited the national slaughterhouse, but there were no reports of any protest actions there.

Chamber of Commerce Protest

PA261633 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 26 Apr 79 p 1 PA

[Communique issued by the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Panama in Panama City 25 April]

[Text] Yesterday [as published] morning, as happened in various parts of the city, the building of our organization was the target of a vandalistic attack by a group of students led by well-known communist leaders, who were seen in strategic points of the area from early in the morning. Efforts have been made to justify these acts of vandalism on the basis of the National Government's decision to increase meat prices. Our organization had nothing to do with that official decision.

Despite the presence of some national guardsmen who are permanently on duty in the area near our headquarters and the telephone calls to the National Guard headquarters, the demonstrators acted freely and no efforts were made to protect the lives and property of the community.

The attack against our institution, which represents an important sector of the country's free enterprise, and the disturbances in other sectors of the capital, dangerously used students precisely at a time when the international banking convention was opening in the country. This is a clear indication of the tactics of the communists who, despite all the public charges made by various sectors of our community, are openly continuing their task of undermining the fundamental bases of our true democratic traditions to achieve their infamous objectives of creating chaos in the country by worsening the nation's social and economic stability.

Our protest is vigorous. The events show the cowardice of the instigators and the criminal methods which their ideology promotes. With their actions, they endangered the lives of the personnel who work in our institution and all the citizens who were in the areas where these acts of vandalism occurred.

[Signed] Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Panama 26 Apr 79

Ministry Comment

PA260223 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Rosalino Pinzon Commentary]

[Excerpts] The increase of meat prices has provoked various reactions from Panama's social sectors. While the press headlined the authorized price increases, averaging almost 25 percent, Agricultural Development Minister Oranges said yesterday in Colon that the ministry was not to blame for this measure described by the popular sectors as excessive and unjustified. However, this morning the main streets in Panama City were jammed with hundreds of students protesting the price increases. Almost 2 and 1/2 months ago the price of meat was raised to compensate for the increased costs in cattle production which, according to official figures, has increased considerably in recent years.

Government officials said that the increase in meat prices could not be avoided, but they also claimed to have rejected a proposal by the cattlemen which would have set meat prices according to supply and demand. This would have created uncontrollable anarchy in meat prices.

## COSTA RICA

### TRADE RELATIONS INCREASED WITH PANAMA

PA261234 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2115 GMT 25 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 25 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Officials of the Economy, Industry and Commerce Ministry of Costa Rica have announced that the governments of Costa Rica and Panama have decided to increase trade relations as a result of negotiations which concluded this past weekend in Panama City.

Now 35 new products have been added to the "free trade and preferential exchange treaty" presently in effect. Another 29 articles will be the subject of future negotiations. Most of the products which were approved will be free from taxation, with the exception of vegetable soups, pure juices and tomato sauce and paste.

Costa Rica and Panama signed the trade agreement in 1964. This agreement was updated in 1973 with the signing of a new treaty. New lists of products have been periodically added to the original agreement.

Economy Vice Minister Jorge Corrales has stated that it is expected that with the trade increase agreed upon in Panama last week, trade between the two countries will increase by $3 million during the present year. In 1978, Costa Rica exported $20.7 million worth of goods to Panama and Panama exported $10.2 million in goods to Costa Rica. Costa Rica had a favorable balance of $10.5 million.

### COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE MILITARIZATION

PA261429 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] There will be another legislative investigative commission to investigate charges about the country's militarization. For the past several weeks, the National Liberation Party has been denouncing the transshipment of arms in Costa Rica, which goes against the country's civilian system.

A legislative debate ended yesterday afternoon with the approval of a motion submitted by Deputy Prieto Jimenez, who asked that a five-member commission thoroughly investigate the subject. According to the Liberation deputy, the country has to be made aware of Minister Juan Echeverria's desire of making the police more sophisticated.

### BRIEFS

PLN ASSEMBLY LEADERS--The deputies of the National Liberation Party [PLN] bloc in the legislative assembly have chosen their leaders for the coming legislative term. Carlos Manuel Castillo Morales was chosen chief of the PLN bloc, Azofeifa Viquez became deputy chief, Alicia Vega was elected PLN secretary and Juan Munoz became secretary of the PLN bloc. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA]

## EL SALVADOR

### U.S. EMBASSY SECURITY CHIEF ESCAPES ATTACK

PA262040 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2025 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The chief of security of the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador, Alfredo Zapata, Wednesday evening escaped unharmed from an attack.

According to unofficial reports, the former chief of the Investigation Department of the National Police was about to enter his residence in the San Carlos urban center in the north sector of this capital when two unidentified persons shot at him. Zapata hit the floor of his vehicle and from there repelled the attack. So far none of the extremist groups operating in the country has claimed credit for the attack.

## GUATEMALA

### ARMY DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN LEFTIST LEADER KILLING

PA261236 Paris AFP in Spanish 0403 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Apr (AFP)--The Guatemalan Army today denied having had any part in the assassination of leftist leader Manuel Colom Argueta, which occurred 1 month ago.

The army issued a press communique to deny the widely publicized charges made by Colom's family 1 month after he was shot down in the street. "The army emphatically denies the charge that military authorities participated in such a contemptible crime," the communique says.

"Nor can high-ranking military chiefs have been involved in the crime, since their sole mission is to safeguard the national sovereignty and maintain peace in all areas," the communique adds.

## NICARAGUA

### FIVE YOUTHS TAKE ASYLUM IN VENEZUELAN EMBASSY

PA261923 Paris AFP in Spanish 1518 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 26 Apr (AFP)--Sources close to the Foreign Ministry reported here today that five Nicaraguan youths have taken asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy in Managua. Four of them are less than 19 years of age and all of them are wanted by the Nicaraguan National Guard because of their active opposition to President Anastasio Somoza's government, the sources said.

The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry is studying each case individually in order to decide if it will ask the Nicaraguan Government to grant them safe-conducts to leave Nicaragua.

### PROTEST GROUPS OCCUPY WHO, OAS OFFICES

PA262133 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1813 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Opponents of Gen Anastasio Somoza's government today occupied the WHO and OAS offices in Nicaragua to protest the situation in this Central American country.

Leaders of the Rural Workers Association occupied the building where the OAS office is located in Managua. Spokesmen of the workers indicated that they had resorted to this measure to protest repression of rural workers who have participated in the occupation of land, particularly in western Nicaragua. They added that the land has been occupied because of the lack of work in Nicaraguan rural areas.

Almost at the same time, a group of the Association of Women Concerned with National Problems (AMPRONAC) occupied the building where the WHO office is located. The women said that their action is to protest the repression of youths who are captured and held incommunicado by the military authorities.

They added that they demand a public reply from Managua Police Commander Col Nicolas Valle Salinas regarding the fate of dozens of youths arrested recently in poor neighborhoods of the city. They said that if the Managua military chief does not give a satisfactory reply the occupation of the WHO building will continue for more than 1 day.

A few days ago the United People's Movement (MPU) also carried out a 24-hour occupation of the WHO office to protest what it described as "military repression of youths."

SANDINISTS TAKE 'TEMPORARY CONTROL' OF MASAYA

PA270418 (Clandestine) Radio Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2230 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Sandinist Front squads yesterday took temporary control of the city of Masaya and conducted armed meetings. As a result of clashes with armed Somozist patrols, one unidentified young man was killed. Our squads went through all neighborhoods of the city.

ARMY REPORTS CLASHES WITH SANDINISTS

PA262216 Paris AFP in Spanish 1950 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 26 Apr (AFP)--Six guerrillas and a solider were killed in an attack by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) on San Juan de Rio Coco village northwest of Managua, yesterday, the army reported today. The official bulletin says that the Sandinist forces set fire to the town's red light district, but were driven back when they tried to take over the garrison.

On the same day, another Sandinist group attacked Sabana Grande, a village west of Managua. During the clash with the National Guard, a girl caught in the crossfire was wounded. A similar attack was reported in the village of El Viejo, in western Nicaragua. No casualties were reported.

Sporadic shooting was reported last night in Managua and military patrols made many arrests. Meanwhile, it was reported that at least two youths were killed during an armed clash in Managua between rival groups.

BANK VEHICLE HELD UP, 41 ARRESTED IN MANAGUA

PA261948 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1840 GMT 26 Apr 79 PA

[Telephone report from Managua]

[Excerpts] Four guerrillas, including one woman, yesterday afternoon intercepted a vehicle of the Banco Nicaraguense on the road between Jinotepe and Diriamba. They took 1.7 million corodbas, equivalent to $170,000. The vehicle had apparently been going from those departments south of Managua to the bank's main office.

The National Guard searched vehicles near Diriamba and Jinotepe but was unable to find the guerrillas. At the time of the holdup, the guerrillas told the bank guards that they should not resist because the money was needed to continue the struggle against General Somoza's government.

Last night, 41 persons were arrested in a park in the Luis Somoza neighborhood in southern Managua. They were apparently arrested because they were suspected of being involved in the insurgency against the Nicaraguan regime.

MALMIERCA ENDS AUSTRIA VISIT, TRAVELS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Vienna Press Conference

FL262347 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2332 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] At a press conference in Vienna, Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has declared that relations between Cuba and Austria are developing successfully, and that there are favorable prospects in the trade, economic and cultural fields. The Cuban foreign minister added that the talks held in the Austrian capital were quite useful and represent a noteworthy contribution to the development of good bilateral relations. Malmierca said it is very satisfying to note that Cuba and Austria plan to expand commercial relations by any means and agreed to sign documents concerning the bases of compensation. He also referred to the nonalined countries conference in Havana in September, stressing it will be a demonstration of the strengthened unity and cohesiveness of the countries that are struggling against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid.

Arrival in Czechoslovakia

FL261836 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpt] Prague--Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today arrived in the city of Cesky Velenice, some 300 km from Prague, to begin a 3-day official and friendly visit to Czechoslovakia. In Cesky Velenice, which borders on Austria, the Cuban foreign minister and the delegation he heads were received by Cuban Ambassador Pedro Luis Torres and by Czechoslovak Government and Communist Party leaders.

CUBAN-YUGOSLAV PARTY TALKS CONTINUE IN HAVANA

FL262337 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2320 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] High-level Cuban and Yugoslav delegations have continued the talks that began Monday regarding the nonlined countries movement. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo, and Aleksander Grlickov, member of the Presidium Executive Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, are chairing the talks. A press note released today reports that some aspects of the talks were examined on Wednesday. The talks are being held at Revolution Palace in Havana. Grlickov and his delegation arrived in Cuba on Sunday.

RAINS CAUSE EVACUATION IN SANTIAGO DE CUBA PROVINCE

FL261913 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1807 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] A total of 1,917 persons have been evacuated from the municipalities of Palma Soriano, San Luis, Contramaestre, Segundo Frente and Julio Antonio Mella in Santiago de Cuba Province as a result of the torrential rains that have fallen over that territory in the past few hours. The provincial civil defense has also reported 650 head of cattle evacuated; 2 bridges, 3 houses and some railway sections damaged; and communications cut off with the main town of Segundo Frente Municipality.

As far as lives lost are concerned, the youngster (Luis Enrique Premial), age 7, has been declared missing at the Paso Blanco River crossing in San Luis Municipality. So far, the San Luis and Palma Soriano municipalities in Santiago de Cuba Province have been affected the most. However, there has been no need to evacuate the students from the rural basic secondary schools in that province.

ASSESSMENT OF FLOOD DAMAGE IN PINAR DEL RIO PROVINCE

FL261931 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Due to last Monday's and Tuesday's heavy rains in the Province of Pinar del Rio, a meeting was held to report on the losses, some of which are six persons killed, the evacuation of 10,506 persons--more than 5,000 of whom are residents of Guane--96 houses collapsed and more than 1,300 others seriously damaged. It was also announced that eight tobacco warehouses had caved in, one bridge had been destroyed and four others damaged.

All agricultural areas were seriously damaged as a result of the heavy rains that flooded many plantations and canefields. Likewise, it was announced that every effort is being made to resume all educational activities and restore electricity and all other services that have not been seriously affected.

The meeting was chaired by Carol Miranda, second party secretary in the province, and Orlando Lugo, president of the Provincial People's Government Assembly. It was also learned that all students of rural schools and schools in the countryside are reported to be in good health, and all schools will soon resume classes.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPORT FOR PUERTO RICO SOLIDARITY MEETING

FL252037 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2028 GMT 25 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The Cuban committee of support for the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rico has been formed at the headquarters of the Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP]. The committee is chaired by Elena Gil, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the MPSP. Its members include representatives of mass organizations and other national institutions.

Committee Statement

FL260115 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0023 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] A Cuban committee of support for the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rico was formed this afternoon at the headquarters of the Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] in El Vedado [Havana]. The committee is chaired by Elena Gil, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the MPSP. Other committee members include Jorge Lopez, president of the committee of solidarity with Pureto Rican political prisoners; (Miriam Armanza) of the PCC Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations; Freddy Torres of the Central Committee's America Department; and representatives of the Federation of University Students, Union of Young Communists [UJC], Organization of Pioneers, Cuban Radio and Television Institute, Union of Cuban Journalists, committees for the Defense of the Revolution, Central Organization of Cuban Workers, Federation of Cuban Women and Cuban Institute for Friendship with peoples.

At the ceremony for the creation of the committee of support for the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rico, a statement was read announcing this conference, which will be held in Mexico City. The statement also announces that an international meeting preparatory to the Mexico City conference will be held in Havana on 30 and 31 May sponsored by the MPSP, UJC and mass and social organizations.

The statement points out that our people once again will offer their modest but resolute solidarity to the fraternal people of Puerto Rico, who are carrying on the struggle for independence of their homeland.

Today more than ever, the statement emphasizes, it is necessary to recognize the inalienable right of Puerto Rico to be an independent and sovereign nation, just as expressed in the United Nations resolution.

The statement of the committee of support for the second international conference of solidarity with Puerto Rico, which will be held in Mexico City, also stresses that today more than ever we must increase initiatives aimed at demanding the unconditional release of the hemisphere's oldest prisoners. They are Lolita Lebron, Oscar Collazo, Rafael Cancel and Irving Flores, whose imprisonment unmasks the political farce on human rights raised by the current North American administration. The statement also points out that progressive mankind expresses it repudiation of the attempts of the North American government to hold a clever plebiscite in the next few years to obtain legal support for a possible annexation. The statement concludes noting that world public opinion is mobilizing for the independence of Puerto Rico.

PRODUCTION ESTIMATES FOR GIRON BUS ASSEMBLY

FL261536 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1503 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Between this year and next, 1979-80, Cuba will assemble 400 buses based on the Hungarian (Icarus-260) model. According to a report in Budapest today, by 1984 Cuba will increase annual production to 1,000 vehicles. According to a contract signed between the Hungarian enterprise that exports vehicles and parts, Mogurt, and the Cuban enterprise for the import of vehicles and transportation equipment, (Transimport), deliveries of supplies for bus assembly will begin in June 1979. The modern Guanajay automotive plant, located to the east of Havana, will be in charge of assembling the Giron-13 bus, which has a 100-person capacity. They will be built with Hungarian and Czechoslovak parts. Hungary will also export the necessary equipment to Cuba to assemble the buses and will train Cuban technicians in our country, and Hungarian specialists will be trained in Budapest.

COMMENTARY DENOUNCES PRC OFFER FOR U.S. SPY BASES

FL260205 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] That little and ridiculous member of the Beijing gang named Deng Xiaoping, who was photographed dressed as a cowboy during his visit to the United States, and who by now must have a pain in his waist from so much bowing to the Yankees, has just taken another step on his contemptible Fascist policy.

According to reports by various Western news agencies, Deng Xiaoping has offered to be a mercenary spy for the United States. This might seem a little strange, although nothing is strange by now in the policy of the Beijing gang.

Let us see how the matter was reported by the North American newspaper Washington POST:

As long as the United States is willing to give it electronic installations, China stands ready to install listening posts along its border with the Soviet Union to spy on its neighbor. This, the Washington POST continued, was announced by Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping in the course of a long talk with a group of U.S. Senators who are visiting Beijing.

History is very simple, clear and precise. This group of Yankee Senators, who visited Beijing headed by Frank Church, chairman of the North American Senate Foreign Relations Committee, met with Deng Xiaoping.

In the course of the talk, Joseph Biden, Democratic Senator for Delaware, asked Deng if China would be willing to authorize the North Americans to install electronic listening posts more or less similar to the ones operated in Iran a while back. Deng Xiaoping said that such posts should be controlled by Chinese personnel, who would pass on the data obtained to the North Americans. In other words, Deng Xiaoping submissively offered to be a mercenary spy for North American imperialism, the most aggressive and most interventionist in history. He offered to spy on the world's first socialist state, Lenin's homeland, the nation that defeated Nazi-Fascism, paying a price of 20 million dead and tremendous destruction.

This little and obsequious traitor of his people and of the cause of socialism and freedom is not satisfied with the cunning and criminal role that China is playing under the leadership of the group of Maoist mandarins. He is not satisfied that the China of the Beijing clique has been on the side of South Africa and traitors to the Angolan people and supports and helps the assassins of the Chilean junta presided over by Pinochet. Deng Xiaoping has not had enough with the understanding between his gang and NATO and the support they gave to the aggressors against Ethiopia and the shah of Iran, whose place they want to take now in their submission to Yankee imperialism.

The members of the Beijing gang, who have ignored the slightest scruples they could have had in the past, remain active in the imperialist maneuver designed to divide the non-alined countries movement, a movement whose fundamental principle is that its members are not part of any military alliance and they do not allow foreign bases on their territory.

Deng, submissive, indulgent and with unspeakable opportunism, has offered the Yankees that he take the place of the shah of Iran in submissiveness and let the United States install bases on Chinese territory to spy on the Soviet Union.

It is perfectly well known that the most reactionary U.S. sectors were deeply concerned when their protege, the shah of Iran, fell and the espionage bases they had in Iran, equipped with highly sophisticated equipment, were dismantled. Since then, they have been anxiously looking for another country in which to locate those bases. They have considered Turkey. They even thought of doing the job with U-2 spy planes from Taiwan. This is why the Deng Xiaoping offer may have seemed quite opportune to them, although Senator Frank Church, perhaps surprised by the shamelessness of the new partner of imperialism, told the North American press upon his return from Beijing that the offer would have to be studied more carefully.

Can this new spiteful action of the Maoists be surprising? Can anything surprise us from this group of traitors, after the cowardly aggression against Vietnam? The only thought that comes to mind is that the Chinese people do not deserve a regime like the 20th centry mandarins, who are as cruel, cynical and immoral as the old mandarins.

GRENADA

FURTHER ON GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

FL261525 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 18 Apr 79 p 12 FL

[Text] The Provisional Revolutionary Government of Grenada [PRG] plans setting up a national youth servide [NYS] "to solve several problems with one stroke," the country's new finance minister, Mr David Coard has said.

In an interview he explained that the national youth service, as presently envisaged by the PRG would be a civilian organization designed to equip the country's youth with high levels of skill and training over a period of years. The PRG, he said, had identified at least five areas in which a national youth service could make important contributions.

He noted that at present there were thousands of Grenadian youths who, though being successful at the ordinary and advanced leavels of GCE examinations, were unemployed. It was, therefore, his government's plan to start with about 1,000 to 1,500 youths and use those with the necessary qualification as teacher aides within Grenada's school system.

This, he said, would reduce classroom sizes, which now range from between 80 to 100 students per teacher in many cases. "That is really child-minding and not education. We intend to have decent teacher-pupil ratios" Mr Coard explained.

He explained further that his government intended, over a period of time, to introduce dual-purpose schools--using the same facilities and the same plant to carry on primary school education in the morning and secondary school education in the afternoon, with the hope of eventually ensuring the provision of universal secondary education on the island.

But, he added: "We do not have plans for setting up our own university. We are quite content to remain within the University of the West Indies framework. We are more concerned about reaching the stage of universal secondary education.... "At the tertiary level, we think it would be financial madness for Grenada on its own to try and set up a university system catering for a whole range of different faculties.

Detailing some of the other areas in which a national youth service will be engaged, he explained that it was intended to provide youths with in-service training to serve as health aides and nurse aides in hospitals, maternity and other clinics around the country. In addition, some youths would participate in a house repairs programme for the aged and the destitute while others would participate in feeder road construction, building access roads into remote areas so that farmers would be able to get their produce easily to market.

The fifth area of activity envisaged for the NYS, he said, was active involvement in agricultural food, farm production involving the use agricultural cooperatives. The Grenada Government, he said, owned a lot of land on the island--40 per cent of all estates, over 100 acres--but a lot of this land was lying idle. [sentence as received]

"We hope to utilise a great deal of it in projects of this sort and other projects geared to achieving two objectives--diversifying our agricultural export base rather than relying entirely on cocoa, nutmegs and bananas; and to satisfy the local market while reducing the massive food import bill which Grenada presently has," he explained.

Mr Coard recently held two hours of talks with Prime Minister Forbes Burnham and senior government ministers who were in Barbados for the Surinam-Guyana summit and was loud in his praise for assistance being given Grenada by Guyana.

As part of Guyana's assistance to the new government which recently ousted the Eric Gairy regime, a six-man team of local officials spent several days in Grenada advising the Grenada Government. The team was scheduled to return to Guyana yesterday.

Included in that team was director general of the Guyana National Service, Cde Norman McLean, who it is believed was engaged in advising the Maurice Bishop government on the setting up of a national youth service.

## JAMAICA

### PRIME MINISTER MANLEY EXPLAINS SOCIAL CONTRACT

FL261621 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Manley has outlined the responsibilities of government, (?employers) and workers with respect to the social contract being sought by the government. In a radio and television broadcast last night Mr Manley emphasized the importance of cooperation from all sectors to insure the best results and best protection for the greater [word indistinct] of our people.

[Begin Manley recording] Let me now set out what we are asking everybody to do. We (?start) with government itself. We are coming forward with a budget this year which Finance Minister Eric Bell will present and describe at the proper time, and which has squeezed our current expenditure as hard as we can without wrecking the ability of the government to function. Secondly, we will not, I repeat, not be increasing the overall burden of taxation this year. Thirdly, government will seek to ensure that the foreign exchange required is to provide the basic needs of the people and the productive elements in the economy will be available. [end recording]

The prime minister said that employers' responsibilities would be to expand production and job security for their employees and keep prices to absolute minimum. The workers, he said, would be asked to keep wage increases to a maximum of 10 percent. Mr Manley said the elements of the social contracts represented a program for economic recovery. However he said this program would require greater willingness on the part of everyone to be self-disciplined for the sake of the country. He pointed to the need for unions to avoid strikes and the workers to allow their unions to work all problems through the machinery that exists, either at the work place or at the Ministry of Labor.

GUYANA-SURINAM SUMMIT CONCLUDES IN BARBADOS

FL262130 Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 15 Apr 79 pp 1, 32 FL

[Courtney Gibson report]

[Excerpts] The Guyana-Surinam summit ended late yesterday with the two prime ministers agreeing to strengthen ties between their neighbouring countries in trade, economical, cultural and social fields.

Though the text of a final communique was not available, Prime Minister Forbes Burnham had stated at a reception hosted by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams Friday evening that it was the duty of the two heads of government to express the "longing for better understanding and closer cooperation" in some form of words. It was for that reason, he said, that the text of the conference document when released would be published in both English and Dutch, with both being of equal validity.

Conference sources disclosed yesterday that the two prime ministers agreed to pay official visits to each other's country starting with a visit by the Surinam Prime Minister Henk Aaron in June. They also attached high priority to the improvement of communication links between Guyana and Surinam and in particular to the establishment of a joint enterprise--an efficient ferry service between the two countries.

On international affairs, Prime Minister Burnham and Mr Aaron affirmed their determination to promote relations between their countries and all other states.

They considered strict observance by all states of the purposes and principles of the United Nations as indispensible for international peace and security. They also agreed there is pressing need for the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice and equality, and they pledged to work for the achievement of this objective.

In an after-dinner speech at the reception hosted for the Guyana and Surinam prime ministers and their delegations by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams Friday night, Prime Minister Burnham observed that the Guyanese and Surinamese people long for better understanding and closer cooperation between their two countries, and it is the duty of their leaders to express that longing in words.

According to Prime Minister Burnham, members of the Guyana team at the summit got to know their Surnamese counterparts much better than they did before the summit.

Prime Minister Burnham also announced that the Surinham prime minister had promised to visit Guyana on an official visit, and that he intended returning the visit.

And dealing with the significance of the summit, he said when history came to record that on Friday, April 13, 1979, there was another historic event--apart from the eruption of Mount Soufriere--to wit, the formalising of the friendship between Surinam and Guyana, it would also record that this historic event was referable primarily to the fact that the summit took place in Barbados--"little England"--"one of the greatest countries in the world."

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

### PRD LEADER CRITICIZES BALAGUER ON DEBTS

FL252234 Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Apr 79 FL

[Excerpt] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez disclosed today that the government of former President Joaquin Balaguer left debts exceeding 125 million at the National Price Stabilization Institute [INESPRE] and Dominican Corporation of State Enterprise [CORDE]. The secretary general of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] explained that the Balaguer administration left another debt of 37 million pesos in CORDE, plus another of $61 million. The top PRD leader made these statements to refute information furnished by Dr Joaquin Balaguer to the newspaper EL CARIBE yesterday. The Balaguer government left a debt that in INESPRE on 8 May 1978 amounted to 63.14 million pesos, of which 38.82 million pesos was overdue, Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez emphasized. He added that the current INESPRE administration has reduced these debts to 34 million pesos, explaining that out of this sum, payments of about 10 million are due and 23.8 million are not yet due. Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez said the Balaguer administration left two big debts in CORDE, and so far there does not appear to be a way of solving them. He said this shows the disaster and plundering promoted by Dr Balaguer himself from the presidency of the republic.

## PERU

### HAYA DE LA TORRE'S HEALTH REPORTEDLY DECLINES

PA270433 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0028 GMT 27 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 26 Apr (LATIN)--Political sources in this city revealed today that the health of veteran political leader Victor Raul Haya de la Torre deteriorated today. A team of outstanding Peruvain doctors was unexpectedly called to the bedside of the veteran political leader. Efforts to contact the doctors in order to confirm the report were fruitless. The highest leaders of the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA] have maintained a strict silence on Haya de la Torre's condition. The 84-year-old APRA leader returned recently from Houston, Texas, where he was treated for an unspecified malady. Lima political circles believe that he has lung cancer. His condition has deteriorated seriously during the past 24 hours, usually well-informed circles revealed.

## URUGUAY

### MILITARY CHIEFS REAFFIRM ELECTIONS FOR 1981

PY241534 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1405 GMT 23 Apr 79 PY

[By Dalmiro Coronel]

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 23 Apr (TELAM)--The political opening plan which is being structured by the Uruguayan civilian government has been reaffirmed without any variations by [words indistinct] high-ranking military chiefs, who were repeatedly and insistently being queried by local and foreign journalists. This plan includes, in the first place, the approval of "the statute for political parties." There is already in existence an official draft on this matter, but it has been reported that other points and proposals will also be taken into account. In second place, it is established within the basic political plan that in 1980 there will be a plebiscite for a new constitution. And in third place, general elections are foreseen for 1981.